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..PART ONE - PROLOGUE.....

CHILDREN OF DOOM

EDITOR DICK GIORDANO • SCRIPT SERGIUS O'SHAUGNESSY • ART PAT BOYETTE •

A CHARLTON CLASSIC

CHARLTON PREMIERE Vol. 2, No. 2, November, 1967, published bimonthly by Charlton Comics Group at Charlton Building, Derby, Conn. 06418

FIRST, THERE CAME THE FIRE BOMBS..NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE! BEFORE THE RAGING HOLOCAUST WHICH BURNED AWAY THE FACE OF THE PLANET, THERE WERE ENDLESS ARGUMENTS...!!

WE DEMAND OUR RIGHTS! THOSE OIL FIELDS BELONG TO MY COUNTRY! WE WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO POSSESS THEM! DO YOU HEAR...WE WILL LET NOTHING STAND IN OUR WAY!

AND, AFTER THE ARGUMENTS, THE PLOTS. THE SCHEMING...

IT IS OUR DUTY TO PREVENT WAR! WE MUST FIND A WAY TO MAKE WAR IMPOSSIBLE!

EVERY NATION NOW HAS ATOMIC WEAPONS! WAR WILL WIPE OUT MANKIND! BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?

THE SCIENTISTS HAD THE ANSWER!

GENTLEMEN, HERE IS OUR GUARANTEE THAT NATIONS WILL NEVER AGAIN BATTLE EACH OTHER! THIS IS A SCALE MODEL OF THE **DOOMSDAY** MACHINE!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND DOCTOR! ALREADY THERE ARE TOO MANY BOMBS! HOW CAN ONE MORE HELP?

THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE IS MUCH MORE THAN A MERE BOMB, MY FRIENDS! THIS MACHINE WILL BE A GLOBAL POLICEMAN...CAPABLE OF ADMINISTERING DREADFUL PUNISHMENT TO THOSE WHO VIOLATE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC LAW!

AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

IT CONTAINS A FANTASTICALLY SENSITIVE ELECTRONIC BRAIN... IT WILL DETECT ANY ATOMIC EXPLOSION!

NOTHING NEW ABOUT THAT, DOCTOR...WE'VE HAD RADIATION DETECTORS FOR YEARS!

SO WE HAVE! BUT, ALL THEY DID WAS DETECT! THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE ACTS! IF SOMEONE SETS OFF AN ATOMIC BOMB, THE MACHINE WILL ITSELF EXPLODE WITH SUCH FORCE THAT THE PLANET WILL BE INSTANTLY DESTROYED!

YOU MEAN EVERYTHING? US TOO? WHY, THAT'S MADNESS!

OF COURSE! SUCH MADNESS THAT NO ONE WILL DARE RISK NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS...NOT EVEN OUR GOVERNMENT!

THIS A FINAL, SUPREME EFFORT TO SAVE HUMANITY!

SOON THE TERRIBLE DEVICE WAS COMPLETED AND INSTALLED

GENTLEMEN, IN A TUBE ONE HUNDRED MILES DEEP- WE ARE PLANTING THE HOPE OF THE WORLD!

THEN THE NEWS OF THE DOOMSDAY BOMB WAS RELEASED TO THE WORLD...

DOOMSDAY MACHINE
END OF WAR?
War There
FANTASY

AND IN A CERTAIN EUROPEAN CAPITAL THE NEWS PROVOKES A SINISTER REACTION...

...THIS IS A DAY BEYOND MY FONDEST EXPECTATIONS! THIS DAY - I HAVE BEEN HANDED WORLD DOMINATION!

THIS CANNOT BE, GENERAL! THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE DOES EXIST!

OF COURSE... AND BECAUSE IT DOES EXIST.. THE WORLD IS NOW POWERLESS TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST OUR SUPERIOR NON-ATOMIC WEAPONS...

..DON'T YOU SEE... OUR ENEMIES BUILT ATOMIC BOMBS, BUT WE DEVELOPED COSMIC STORM PROJECTORS! THANKS TO THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE, WE HAVE BECOME THE LEADING MILITARY POWER, AND WE'RE LAUNCHING AN IMMEDIATE ATTACK TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR NEW POSITION...

MINUTES LATER IN A SPACE CAPSULE ORBITING EARTH..

JOE TAKE A LOOK IN THIS SCOPE AND TELL ME I'M DREAMING!

CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE

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TODAY

GOOD LORD! TWO FIREBALLS... THEY MUST BE THREE HUNDRED MILES ACROSS ...AND STILL GROWING!

I CAN'T CONTACT THE CAPE...TOO MUCH INTERFERENCE FROM THE FIREBALLS!

THEN IT'S UP TO US! IF WE FIRE SPACE-TO-GROUND MISSILES NOW, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO KNOCK THOSE THINGS INTO THE OCEAN!

LET'S TRY IT PORTS ARE OPEN!

FIRE ONE...TWO, AND PRAY THEY WORK!

SECONDS LATER..THE MISSILES STRIKE..SHATTERING THE GIGANTIC WHITE [illegible] MASSES..

... BUT NOT DESTROYING THEM! EACH FRAGMENT BECOMES AN AIRBORNE INFERNO! WITH UNIMAGINABLE SWIFTNESS, THEY SPREAD OVER THE FACE OF THE EARTH..WREAKING DESTRUCTION

THE FIREBALLS GENERATE MASSIVE THERMAL WINDS THAT ENGULF THE WORLD IN SEARING FLAME... EVEN THE NATION THAT LAUNCHED THE HOLOCAUST IS NOT TO BE SPARED...!!

THE WINDS, GENERAL...THEY HAVE BROUGHT THE FIRE BACK TO US!

WE CANNOT ESCAPE... WHAT HAVE I DONE?

FINALLY, THEIR ENERGY SPENT, THE FIRES DIED, AND A GREAT STILLNESS SEIZED THE EARTH...

ONLY HIGH ABOVE, IN STILL UNTOUCHED SPACE, WAS THERE STILL SIGN OF LIFE.

HANK...THERE'S NOTHING LEFT DOWN THERE! WE MAY BE THE ONLY MEN LEFT ALIVE!

IF WE PLAN ON STAYING ALIVE, WE HAVE TO FIND FOOD AND WATER!

BUT WHERE? IT'S A CINCH WE CAN'T FIND IT DOWN THERE!

VENUS! WE'VE GOT ENOUGH SUPPLIES TO GET THERE! IF IT'S BARREN, THEN WE WON'T BE ANY WORSE OFF THAN WE ARE NOW!

SOMEHOW...I FEEL I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE... WHEN EVERYONE ELSE IS GONE!

CAN IT, JOE! WE MAY NOT HAVE THE RIGHT, BUT I'M CERTAIN WE HAVE A DUTY...A DUTY TO KEEP GOING UNTIL THERE'S NO HOPE!

IS THERE ANY HOPE? YES ..MORE THAN THE SPACEMEN THINK..FOR NOT ALL HAVE PERISHED FROM MINES..FROM SHELTERS..FROM THE FEW ISOLATED PLACES UNTOUCHED BY THE STORMS THE SURVIVORS COME. BUT THEY ARE NOT THE SAME...MANKIND HAS UNDERGONE DRAMATIC CHANGES..

FIRST THE PYROS WITH THE UNCANNY POWER TO WISH FIRE INTO EXISTENCE!

SAM LOOK..MY FINGERS! I CAN MAKE FIRE JUST BY THINKING ABOUT IT!

OTHERS LOST PHYSICAL SIGHT BUT GAINED THE ABILITY TO SEE WITH THEIR MINDS! THESE ARE THE 'CLAIRVOYANTS'!

DON'T TOUCH THAT STONE.

WHY NOT?

THERE'S A SNAKE UNDERNEATH!

FINALLY..'THE MYSTERIOUS ONES'!

THAT ODD FELLA AGAIN! WHY WON'T HE JOIN US?

LET'S ASK HIM! LOOK... HE'S GOING IN THE CAVE! WE'VE GOT HIM CORNERED..THERE'S ONLY ONE ENTRANCE!

WHERE'D HE GO? HE COULDN'T HAVE GONE THROUGH SOLID ROCK!

HE COULDN'T BUT HE DID!

AND WHAT OF THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE, FATHER?

ALL AND
I LIVE I FEAR
THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY
FOR WHAT HA
AM THE MAN W
DOOMSDAY MA

END
PART ONE

PART 2 [illegible] COUNTDOWN

[illegible] TWO AMERICAN ASTRONAUTS MARK BURNETT AND [illegible] JOYCE HAVE MADE [illegible] A GIANT [illegible] NOBLE

[illegible] INTO WHAT'S [illegible] CAN'T SEE A [illegible] FOUND THROUGH THOSE CLOUDS THE SURFACE [illegible] SEE ANYTHING [illegible]

WE'RE COMPLETELY OUT OF SUPPLIES IT'S EITHER TAKE OUR CHANCES DOWN THERE - OR STARVE UP HERE!

[illegible] BETTER [illegible] AN ALIEN [illegible] EVER OWN ARMS

[illegible] OF A [illegible] GIANT [illegible] OVER [illegible] EARTH! [illegible] MEANWHILE [illegible]

HANK LOOK AT ... THIS MUST'VE BEEN HOW EARTH WAS ...

...E PRETTY BUT IT MIGHT ALSO BE DANGEROUS THERE'S A PISTOL IN THE SURVIVAL KIT!

THINK ... FOUND A SHOOT ER! IF THAT ISN'T A HUMAN FOOT PRINT ...EN ...I GRANDMA ROSES

FOUR THE SPACE TRAVELERS EXPLORE THE ... TERRAIN

CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE

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A MAN!

HEY, FE[illegible] TO TALK TO [illegible]

FEVER SHIP [illegible] AIR EQUIPMENT FROM THEIR ROCKET AND A SHORT TIME ATER

GONE [illegible] THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE AIR THAT CAUSES US TO IMAGINE THINGS!

[illegible] WAS A MAN! LET'S SEE IF WE CAN [illegible]

GOOD LORD HE'S MELTING AWA[illegible]

IF WE HAVE THIS FIGURED RIGHT, THIS JUNK'LL ATTRACT OUR MELTING FRIEND'S ATTENTION HE'LL COME [illegible] AT IT AND

HOPEFULLY HE'LL TOUCH THI[illegible] WIRE! WHEN HE DOES HE['ll] GET A HALF BLAST FROM THIS [illegible]

MAY WORK

A FEW HOURS AFTER AS THE SUN SETS AND NIGHT FALLS

SOMETHING'S MOVING

SHHH

ANJOH!

GOT HIM!

ZHRRRRRRRT

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT WHAT WE DO?

I KNOW ENOUGH

I KNOW THAT YOU'RE A PART OF THE BROTHERHOOD WITH HEAVY HITTERS LIKE HERB AND MIKE AND THAT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT WITH WHAT YOU DO

I'M NOT A BIG FAN OF WHAT YOU DO AND WHY YOU DO IT BUT I'M NOT HERE TO ARGUE ABOUT MORALITY WITH A CONTRACT KILLER

I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE HIS DAUGHTER AND THE BIG ONE I HAVE

WHICH IS

WHICH IS THE REASON WHY A MAN LIKE HERB AND ME ARE THE ONLY THREE PEOPLE LEFT ALIVE

I'M NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT MORALITY AND WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

WE DON'T DARE

HE RADIO. DIATC

FAT NOT STATA PA. THA TRANSMITS IN FROM WEA

THEN

WE CAN NOT HAVE A SECOND TO LOOSE! LOAD THE SHIP WITH WHATEVER'S EDIBLE FROM THE AREA

SO LESS THAN AN HOUR PASSES BEFORE THE MIGHTY SHIP RIPS THROUGH THE DENSE CLOUDS THAT SWATHE VENUS!

WE'LL NEED EVERY ERGON TO BURN THE OUTER HULL AS WE PASS ON THE ATOMIC GENERATOR

BOOM

THE END

TH[illegible] MANY DAYS LATER, THE EARTH [illegible] RETURN IS THE [illegible]

RETR[illegible] R·RING·

SPACESHIP [illegible] AND HERE [illegible]

IT'S ONE OF OUR ATOMIC POWERED [illegible] WE MUST NOT [illegible] ME DOWN

[illegible]

[illegible]

US

THE F[illegible] THEY'VE DOOMED US ALL

AND A MONSTER STEPS LONG
MOMENT FREE PLANE TO LIFE
AND AFTER BEING THE
FIRST TO INTRODUCE

WHIRRR

A.

WH
?

LET
THEM ALONE
IT'S NOT THEIR
FAULT

MIND EXPLAINING WHAT YOU PEOPLE ARE SO ANGRY ABOUT?

CAN'T YOU GUESS, [illegible] ATOMIC ENGINES... THE [illegible]

[illegible]

OR [illegible] THE STUPID OVERSIGHTS!

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

LET'S NOT JUMP TO CONC[illegible] MAYBE THE MACHINE [illegible] WE DON'T KNOW IF IT WA[illegible] TRIGGERED

[illegible] COME HERE

[illegible] NEEDS NO EYES TO [illegible]

THE MACHINE RESTS, GIRL-TELL
S HOW IT IS!

HANK

STOP!

I FELT AT GET HOTTER BY THE SECOND AND
MY HEAD I HEAR A TICKING..

I LOOK...WE CAN GET AWAY IN THE SHIP BEFORE THE BIG BOOM! THERE'S NO POINT IN OUR DYING TOO.

US

THE DOOMSDAY BOMB

END PART TWO

PREMIERE POSTSCRIPTS

ADDRESS MAIL TO PREMIERE POSTSCRIPTS CHARLTON COMICS GROUP DERBY CONN 06418

Dear Editor

You have a great magazine and a big hit in CHARLTON PREMIERE! I just bought the first issue yesterday and have been hooked thoroughly on collecting this great new mag The stories and artwork were terrific, and I enjoyed the book through I think the idea of having all types of stories in the book is excellent. You are the first company to do so I would like to see more of all three stories

Richard Argo
2936 Lowell St
Eureka, California 95501

Thanks, Rich. We hope we can maintain reader interest with varied subject matter.

Dear Editor

I just bought your new mag and I think it's tops, really fab The Shape is magnificent as far as his power goes, but having the mind of a child isn't too good for crime fighting He'd have to have someone tell him what to do if he was to combat criminals

The Tyro Team is just too much They're really great, only I wish you would let Creep join the action They could take on criminals a lot quicker Also, I think they should all take turns on the leg work.

The Spookman is good. Everything about him fascinates me, I suggest you change his name to the Ghost or the Spirit

I hope you don't mind my criticism and suggestions. I am probably fashioning them to suit me I hope they will be in their own mags later on I congratulate you for bringing these characters to life.

Mike Wagner
5462 Dresden
St Louis, Mo

We felt the name, Spookman, was a little weak, also Pat's original title was "The Sandman." We like that but, of course, it's been used before. As to your suggestions, The Spirit is a copyrighted title (not ours) and the Ghost is a villain that we've been using in CAPTAIN ATOM

We don't mind your criticisms and suggestions. Keep 'em coming

Dear Editor

As soon as I finished reading CHARLTON PREMIERE PRESENTS TRIO, I decided to write and give you my comments.

I think when I want to read a superhero comic I want to read a serious one I think most kids do. The Shape is something you would put in a magazine for smaller kids, not in a mag with other serious stories

Spookman is in the middle of the serious and the hilarious stories but somehow that guy seems appealing to me. The artwork was tremendous He's a fine character for your mag

And last, here, in not just my opinion but in many others, is the greatest thing ever put out It's the Tyro Team I've got to thank Steve Skeates for bringing these three teens into the world. They are the groovies, coolest cats I have ever seen

Well, I think I'll be able to get along with the Shape, just as long as you keep of Spookman and the fabulous Tyro Team in your mag I know I'll be a regular buyer.

Kenneth Jakubowsk
2260 W. Clayton Crest
Milwaukee, Wis. 53221

We doubt that all three of these characters will ever appear in the same book again. The intent with TRIO was to showcase three different ideas and attempt to gauge the potential of each for separate future publication

Dear Editor

Charlton is nearing the top rapidly Although I can speak only for the junior high crowd (a lot of your mags have been circulating around study halls), Charlton is surpassed solely by Marvel and possibly National, it seems

Now to the business at hand PREMIERE #1 was practically unsurpassable. You've a trio (pun, pun) of smashes on your hands in The Shape, The Tyro Team, and The Spookman, especially the latter

The Shape, in his own mag, could be dangerous As you mentioned, Plastic Man has arrived. Your multi-guised crusader for justice could be subjected to a barrage of ridicule in National's satirical mag, which shall remain nameless. Don't get me wrong, I think The Shape is one of the greatest things since Charlton got started in "action-heroes" But he seems to be a hybrid of Plastic Man and The Hulk, so it may be good to tone him down a bit if possible

The Tyro Team is another triumph It could have great human interest because of "Creep." His concealed identity could be the basis for many a good story in scholastic difficulties The Tyros are looking good

As for The Spookman, all I can say is what potential! Although I don't get much of an idea what a regular strip of this character would be like, I have a feeling it would be mainly dealing with time travel crime busting which is simply great. His costume is even better than the Blue Beetle's

In closing, I'll say this stick to action heroes and war; in PREMIERE and put The Spookman and The Tyro Team in regular features, immediately!

Yars Erickson
6060 Upland Terr. So
Seattle, Wash. 98118

I'm afraid that the nature of this business makes it impossible to do anything immediately...especially adding new features! First of all, you've got to find a slot for them, then...

POSTSCRIPTS FROM THE EDITOR

This issue may reach the stands a little late. We had an entirely different issue ready for press, cover and all, and lost it on a legality. We then had to get this one together in a big hurry

We've always liked the idea of a black and white comic book but have been afraid of doing one in a format where everyone else is in four color. So we mixed it up in this one! Some four color, some black and white We like it, do you!

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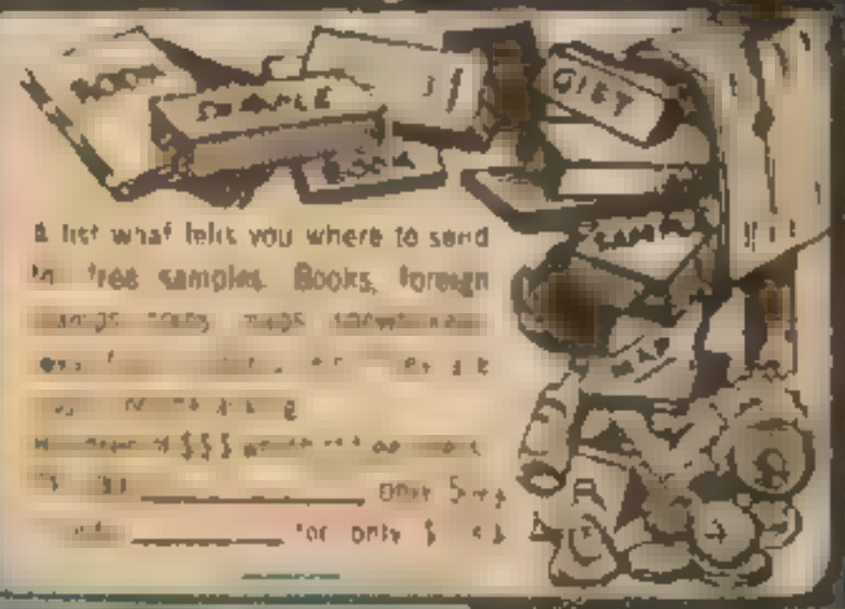

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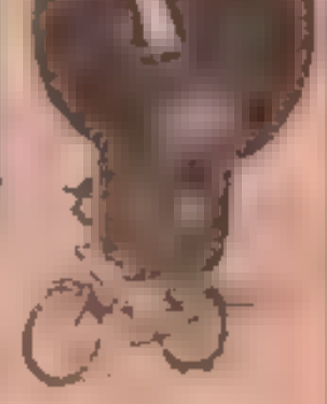

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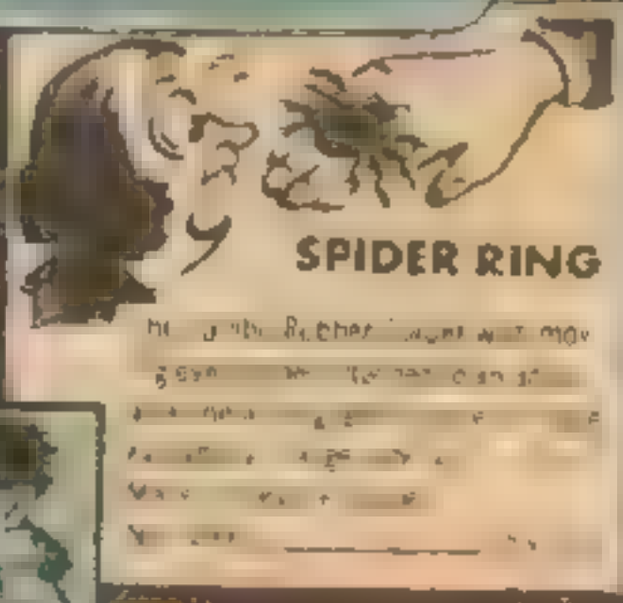

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WHAT THE FINAL WORD

THE [illegible]
AND THE ATMOSPHERE WILL BE FLUNG INTO EMPTY SPACE...THEN NOTHING...

HERE THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE IS BURIED HERE... MANY MILES DOWN!

HOW'S SHE KNOW? ARE YOU SURE, GRANDMA?

COURSE SHE'S SURE MAN. THE FIRE STORM GAVE HER SECOND SIGHT SHE CAN SEE ANYTHING KEPT WHAT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF HER FACE.

NOW ME, JOHNNY, STORMS GAVE ME ANOTHER POWER! I SET FIRE TO THINGS! LIKE... SEE THAT TREE STUMP

TOO BAD YOU! CAN'T BURN THAT MACHINE DOWN THERE!

. WHO SAYS I CAN'T! WE GOT BOUT THREE HOURS BEFORE THE BIG BOOM! MAYBE IN THAT TIME I CAN BURN AWAY THE CONCRETE CASING AND WE CAN REACH THE R...

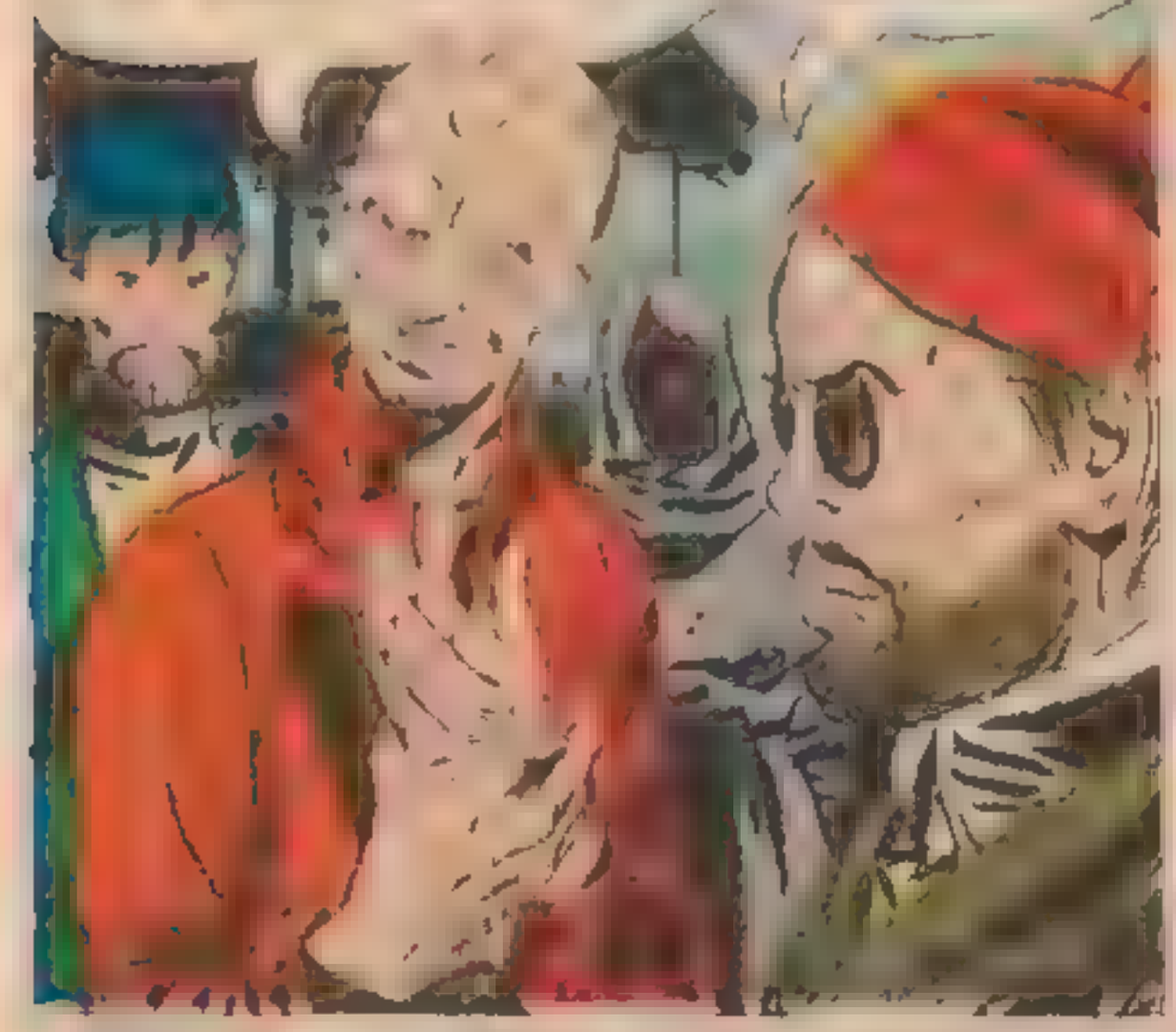
ANYHOW, IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE WE HAVE, SO I MIGHT AS WELL TRY!

5

I DO NOT REGRET ME
OF THEM. THE METAL
IF RELEASED ME HE
THEORY I MIGHT BE ABLE
TO DISABLE THE MACHINE

BUT AT THAT
WHAT
ARE WE WAI
ING FOR!

I CANNOT BE
FROM THE MACHINE



HERE NO ONE
CAN LIVE
FOR LONG
IS POISONED.

NO MAN CAN STOP THE MACHINE NOW BENEATH US THE ATOMIC REACTION IS RAGING...BUILDING TO THE CLIMAX WHEN IT WILL BREAK FREE

OUR TIME HAS RUN OUT WE HAVE LESS THAN TEN MINUTES BEFORE THE BEFORE.

IN LESS THAN TEN MINUTES THE PLANET IS BLOWN TO DUST

FOOL! THAT INFERNAL BOMB HAD NEVER BEEN INSTALLED.... BUT IT WAS.

THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN TAKE BACK THE FUTURE

ARE YOU CERTAIN?

WELL, WE MAY BE ABLE TO GET BACK TO THE INSTANT THAT YOU HAVE BECOME AWARE OF TIME

YEAH..I GUESS SO! IT'S SORTA LIKE YOU MAKE TIME STAND STILL, OR SOMETHING

IF I CAN MAKE ME MIGHT TAKE BEABLE TO TRAVEL IN—

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

WHERE INDEED! STRANGING MY POWER TO ITS VERY EXTREME THE MUTANT BLOOD FLOWS NO OTHER DIMENSION DESTINATION NOT A WHERE BUT A WHEN.

I CAN BE THERE IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE READY I AM FARTHER BACK THAN WHEN THE ICE STORMS RAGED OVER THE EARTH

I MUST MATERIALIZE FOR ONLY A HALF SECOND JUST LONG ENOUGH TO SNIFF AWARE ANY LITTLE WARE.

CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE

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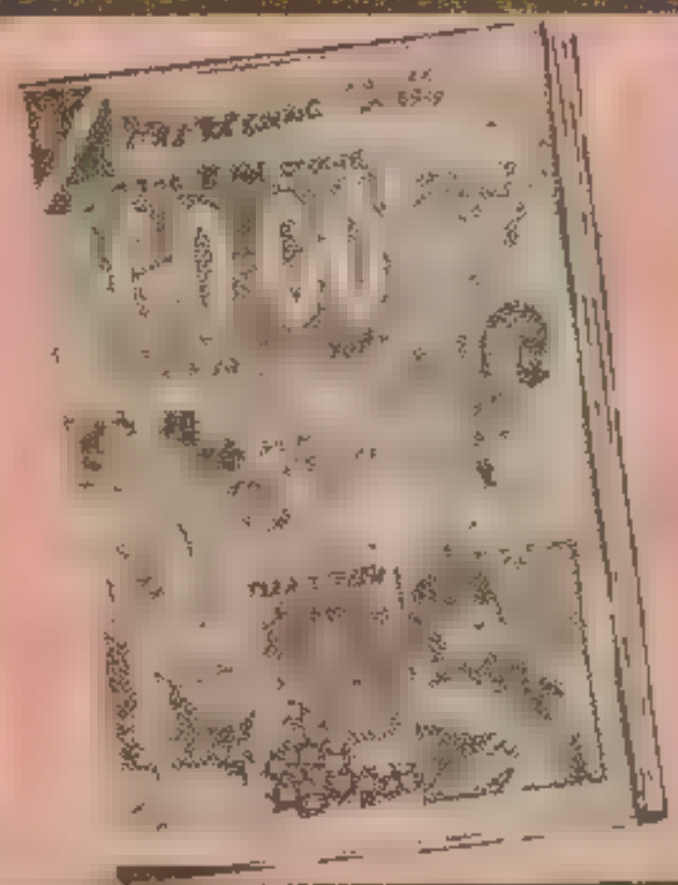

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AT WHAT HAPPENED? DID IT WORK?

AS THE OLD WOMAN

THE MAIN

THEY [illegible]

NO WE MUST NEVER EVEN THINK OF IT! OUR TASK IS TO BUILD A NEW WORLD ... A WORLD WITHOUT WEAPONS OR WAR!

WE HAVE IS TRUE! WE WERE SAVED ONCE BUT IF EVER ANOTHER BOMB IS BUILT...

WE MAY NOT HAVE A SECOND CHANCE!

THE END

ACTION-HEROES? WE GOT 'EM!!!

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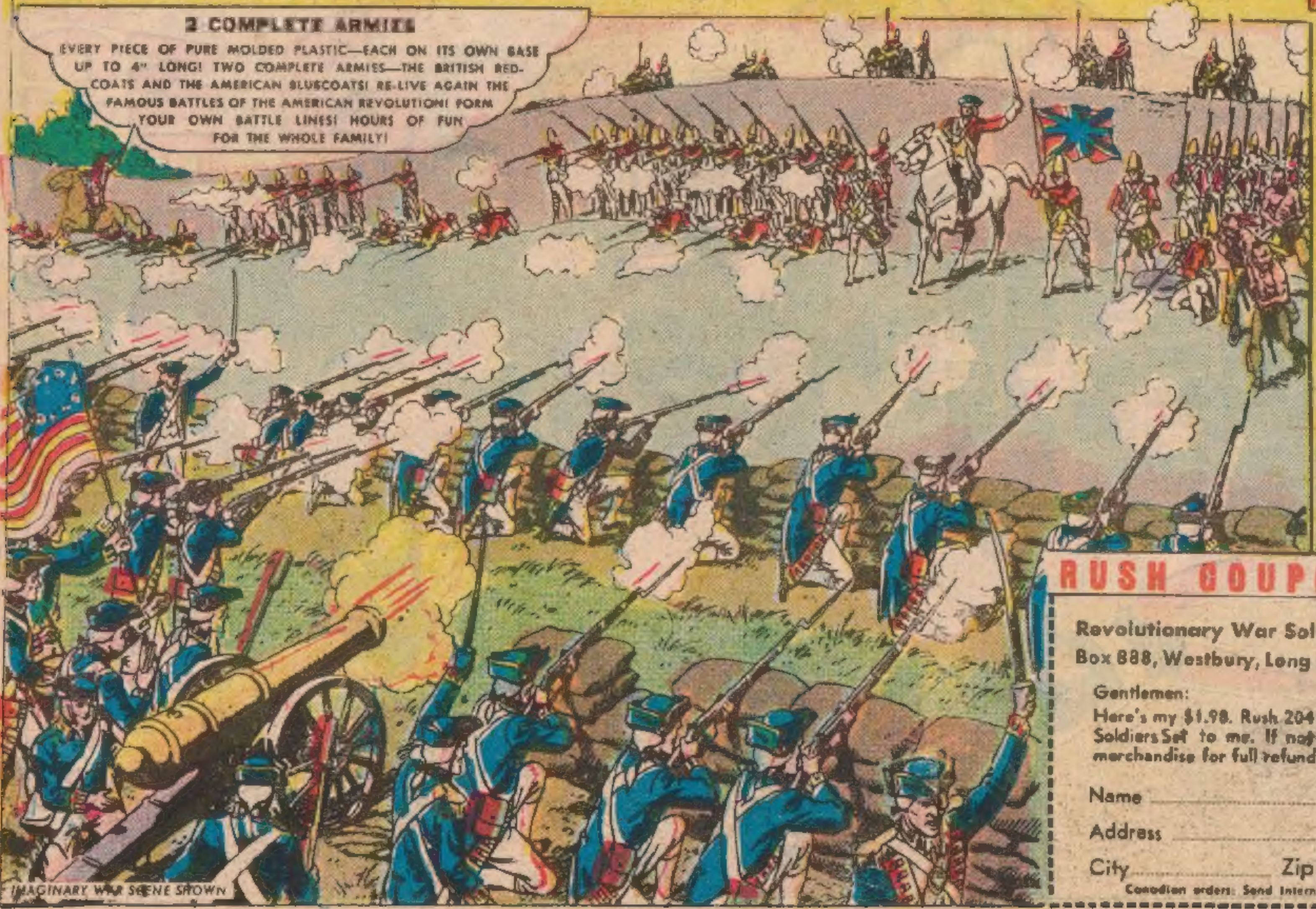

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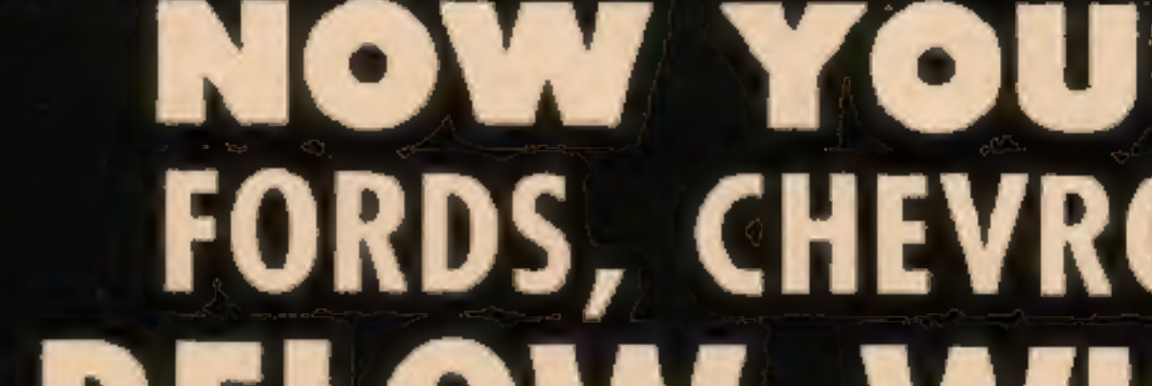

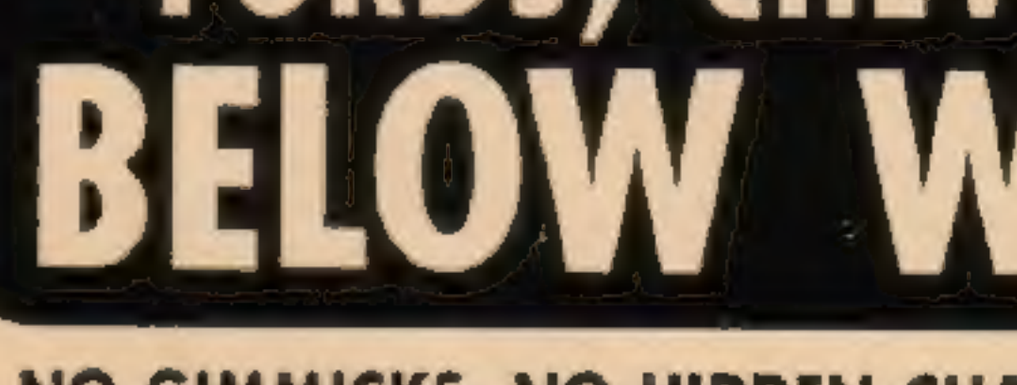

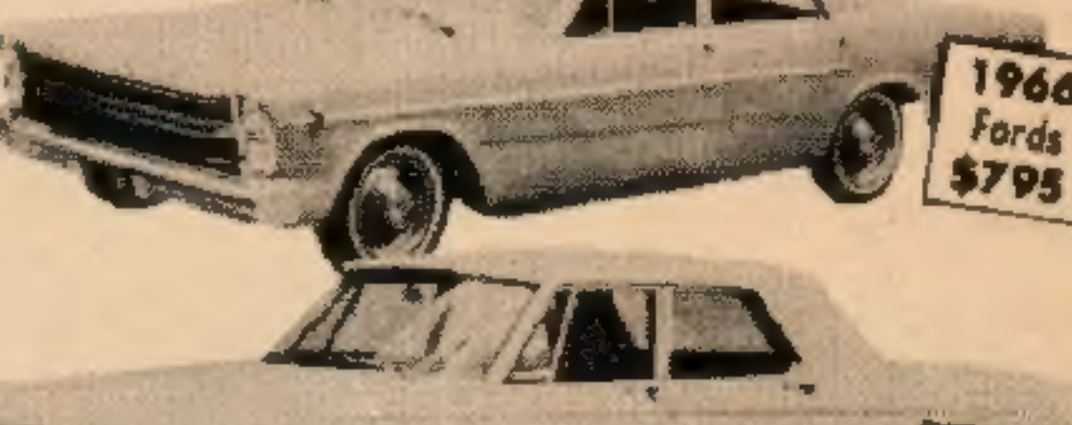

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